

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A printer, in which printing is performed on a recording medium which
2 is transported in a first direction, comprising:

3 a carriage, reciprocately moved in a second direction which is
4 perpendicular to the first direction;

5 a print head, mounted on the carriage, the print head having a head
6 face;

7 a first frame, placed in a first side of the print head; and

8 a first guide plate, extending in the second direction, which includes:

9 a first portion, provided as a part of the first frame so as to
10 extend in a third direction which is orthogonal to both of the first direction and
11 the second direction;

12 a second portion, continued from the first portion so as to
13 extend in the first direction, the second portion supporting the carriage so as to
14 define a distance between the head face and the recording medium; and

15 a third portion, continued from the second portion so as to
16 extend in a fourth direction opposite to the third direction.

1 2. The printer as set forth in claim 1, wherein the carriage is provided
2 with a first guide member which is slid on a first face of the second portion of
3 the first guide plate when the carriage moves in the second direction.

1 3. The printer as set forth in claim 2, wherein the first guide member is
2 slid on a line situated at a substantially center of the second portion of the first

3 guide plate in the first direction.

1 4. The printer as set forth in claim 1, wherein either one of the first
2 portion and the third portion of the first guide plate defines a position of the
3 carriage in the first direction.

1 5. The printer as set forth in claim 4, wherein the carriage is provided
2 with a second guide member which grips either one of the first portion and the
3 third portion of the first guide plate, so that the second guide member is slid
4 thereon when the carriage moves in the second direction.

1 6. The printer as set forth in claim 1, wherein:
2 the carriage is provided with a third guide member which is slid on a
3 second face of the second portion of the first guide plate when the carriage
4 moves in the second direction; and
5 the second face is an opposite face of the first face.

1 7. The printer as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
2 a second frame, placed in a second side of the print head which is
3 opposite side of the first side;
4 a second guide plate, extending in the second direction, which
5 includes:
6 a fourth portion, provided as a part of the second frame so
7 as to extend in the third direction;
8 a fifth portion, continued from the fourth portion so as to

9 extend in the first direction, the fifth portion supporting the carriage so as to
 10 define the distance between the head face and the recording medium; and
 11 a sixth portion, continued from the fifth portion so as to
 12 extend in the fourth direction.

8. The printer as set forth in claim 7, wherein the carriage is provided
 with a fourth guide member which is slid on the fifth portion of the second
 guide plate when the carriage moves in the second direction.

9. A printer, in which printing is performed on a recording medium which
 is transported in a first direction, comprising:

a carriage, on which a print head is mounted, reciprocately moved in
 a second direction which is perpendicular to the first direction;

a recording region, in which the print head performs printing;

a home position, provided in one of both sides of the recording region
 in the second direction, at which the carriage is placed when the print head
 does not perform printing;

a first frame, including:

a carriage guide, extending in the second direction from the
 recording region to the home position such that the carriage moves therealong;
 and

supporting legs, extending downwards from both side end
 portions of the carriage guide; and

a second frame, including:

first positioning members, which define positions of the

17 supporting legs in the first direction;
 18 second positioning members, which define positions of the
 19 supporting legs in the second direction;
 20 third positioning members, which define positions of the
 21 supporting legs in a third direction which is orthogonal to both of the first
 22 direction and the second direction; and
 23 a supporting base, which supports at least a bottom portion
 24 of one supporting leg situated in the home position.

1 10. A printer, in which printing is performed on a recording medium which
 2 is transported in a first direction, comprising:

3 a first guide plate, extending in a second direction which is
 4 perpendicular to the first direction;

5 a looped belt member;

6 a drive motor, which circulating the looped belt member in the second
 7 direction;

8 a head assembly, including:

9 a print head;

10 a belt holder, at which a part of the looped belt is fixed; and

11 a first guided portion, provided in a first side of the print head,
 12 and slid on the first guide plate in accordance with the circulation of the looped
 13 belt member.

1 11. The printer as set forth in claim 10, further comprising a second guide
 2 plate placed in a second side of the print head, which is an opposite side of the

3 first side, so as to extend in the second direction,
4 wherein the head assembly includes a second guided portion slid on
5 the second guide plate in accordance with the circulation of the looped guide
6 member.

12. The printer as set forth in claim 10, wherein:
the first guided member is slidably held on the first guide plate while
defining a position of the print head in the first direction; and
the head assembly includes a third guided portion slidably held on the
first guide plate while defining a position of the print head in a third direction
which is orthogonal to both of the first direction and the second direction.

Cond
Sub A6